



## 2012 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

### TAH 06/12-1 - MODERN AND ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

#### **JUNE 12 - JUNE 30, 2012**

##### **TUESDAY, JUNE 12**

###### **Depart for Rome**

- Meet your delegation and board your international overnight flight to Europe.

##### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13**

###### **Rome, Italy**

- Welcome to Europe! After arrival at the airport your Delegation Manager and coach driver will greet you!
- Some of Rome's most noteworthy highlights are waiting for you! Your guide will take you through the Colosseum and the Roman Forum. The city of Rome, with its antique monuments and religious sites, has been recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

##### **THURSDAY, JUNE 14**

###### **Rome, Italy**

- Descend under the city of Rome when you visit the Christian Catacombs! Enjoy a guided subterranean walk and learn more about Rome's History. The Catacombs of San Callisto are known world-wide for their rich art and heritage.
- Continue your adventure with a City Quest including famous sights like Piazza Navona, the Pantheon, the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain.
- Refresh yourself with some delicious ice cream at Mariotti's. Some say they have the best ice cream in town!

##### **FRIDAY, JUNE 15**

###### **Rome, Italy**

- Visit the center of the Catholic Church and the world's smallest country, the Vatican! Go in the Vatican Museums and admire the frescos of the Sistine Chapel. Wonder at the scale of St. Peter's Basilica.
- Participate in an unique educational meeting with a priest who will speak generally about Catholicism in Italy and the organization of the Vatican. Please feel free to ask questions.
- Today, you will have the very special opportunity of meeting a former member of the Swiss Guard. He will tell you what it takes to guard the Pope.

##### **SATURDAY, JUNE 16**

###### **Naples, Italy**

- It's time to get wet. Dive into fresh cool water and have fun at the water park! Enjoy the open air pools and swim in the wave pool.

## **SUNDAY, JUNE 17**

### **Overnight ferry to Sicily, Italy**

- Visit the ancient city of Pompeii, Vesuvius' most famous victim. When the mountain erupted in 79 AD, it rained ash and stone; the city was completely destroyed and buried beneath the debris.
- Spend some time getting know the area around Pompeii as your Delegation Manager shows you around.
- Explore Naples with your delegation manager and visit the impressive Duomo. Here, you'll see a silver-gilt bust containing the blood of San Gennaro, the protector of Naples killed in AD 305.
- Depart with your overnight ferry to Sicily, the largest island in the Mediterranean!

## **MONDAY, JUNE 18**

### **Palermo, Italy**

- Enjoy a very special People to People activity with students from the area. Get to know the local customs and culture while having fun and playing games together!
- Your Delegation Manager will take you on a cultural walk through Erice, a medieval mountain fortress. Narrow cobblestone streets wind their way through the town with numerous shops and pastry stores.
- Enjoy a guided visit of Segesta with its ruins of a massive Greek temple - one of the most impressive Greek ruins outside of Greece itself.

## **TUESDAY, JUNE 19**

### **Palermo, Italy**

- Take part in a guided orientation of Palermo! The old center is one of the largest in Europe and also one of the richest and most diverse. It contains over 500 palaces, churches, convents, monasteries!
- Take some time to enjoy the charm of Palermo on your own!
- Attend an educational meeting in an authentic Italian Pizzeria. Take this opportunity to try making your own pizza! Homemade pizza is so tasty!
- Enjoy this tiny beach town, where Palermo residents love to go swimming at Mondello Beach. Enjoy the atmosphere of the village or go for a swim! Have fun!

## **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20**

### **Catania, Italy**

- Enjoy a city walk with your Delegation Manager through the seaside town of Cefalu. The town is dominated by a massive rock, once the site of the Temple of Diana.
- Visit a typical Sicilian pottery studio and learn about the process of ceramic production. The village of Caltagirone is renowned in Sicily for its colorful maiolica and terra-cotta pottery.

## **THURSDAY, JUNE 21**

### **Catania, Italy**

- Experience one of the largest active volcanoes in the world when you journey to Mount Etna (10,902 feet). The ancient Romans thought that the mountain was the forge of the blacksmith god Vulcan.
- Take part in an educational meeting about Mount Etna - you'll learn about the history, geological background and characteristics of this active volcano.
- Enjoy some fun and recreation on the beaches of Catania.

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 22**

### **Calabria, Italy**

- Put on your dancing shoes and enjoy traditional Sicilian dancing! You will learn the first steps of popular local dances and try them on your own!
- Discover one of the most magnificent and popular towns in Sicily: Taormina. Set upon a steep hill overlooking the sea, Taormina offers incredible views of Europe's most active volcano: Mount Etna. Visit the Teatro Greco together!
- Travel by ferry to Villa San Giovanni on the Italian mainland; the crossing takes about 20 minutes. This region is called Calabria.

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 23**

### **Ferry to Greek mainland**

- Take part in an unique educational meeting about the production of one of Italy's most important products, olive oil. Producing olive oil is more than a craft, it's an art! It is also a life style steeped in hundreds of years of tradition.
- Say "Arrivederci/Goodbye" to Italy and take the overnight ferry to Patras. Enjoy sailing - kalo taxidi!

## **SUNDAY, JUNE 24**

### **Peloponnesus, Greece**

- Enjoy a guided visit of Olympia, where the Olympic Games first took place in 776 BC. In ancient Olympia, you can see the ruins of the Temple of Zeus, as well as a 3rd century BC athletic stadium.

## **MONDAY, JUNE 25**

### **Overnight ferry to Crete, Greece**

- Enjoy a guided visit of Delphi - an ancient mystical site. Delphi was once called the "navel" of the world... your guide will tell you why!
- Depart for your overnight ferry to Heraklion, Crete. Enjoy the largest city and capital of Crete! It is also the fourth largest city in Greece.

## **TUESDAY, JUNE 26**

### **Iraklio, Greece**

- Stop at the monastery of Panagia Vidiani in the Lassithi Plateau for a lecture about greek Mythology. Afterwards continue to the Dicteon Caves, where it's said that Zeus was born.
- The Palace of Knossos and traces of the Minoan era are waiting for you! Enjoy a guided tour of Knossos and become familiar with this ancient culture!
- Explore Heraklion with a guided city walk and orientation.

## **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27**

### **Iraklio, Greece**

- Join in an environmental service project in the small village of Pagalohori. The "Archelon Association" works to protect sea turtles by preserving their natural habitat.
- Along with your Delegation Manager, explore the picturesque town of Rethymon. Enjoy a walk through the old streets and take in the atmosphere of the town.
- Get ready to dance! Professional Greek dancers will teach you the first steps of traditional dances. Enjoy the opportunity to interact with Greeks and learn about their culture.

- Take part in a folklore dance performance at the main square of the traditional village Gerani.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 28**

##### **Overnight ferry to Greek mainland**

- Have fun during a donkey ride in the countryside visit a typical Cretan farm!
- Enjoy a home meal prepared by local women of Archanes village.
- Learn about the process of making wheat flour bread and producing olive oil in detail. Enrich your field of knowledge about these two staple foods, which are ubiquitous in the Cretan diet.
- Depart by overnight ferry to Pireaus. Enjoy the journey!

#### **FRIDAY, JUNE 29**

##### **Athens, Greece**

- Arrive by ferry in Piraeus.
- Enjoy a guided city orientation through amazing sights including the majestic Acropolis as well as the Parthenon, symbolizing the glory of ancient Greece.
- Take some time with your Delegation Manager to enjoy a walk in the old part of Athens - Plaka, and experience the city's flair on your own.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 30**

##### **Depart from Athens for the United States**

- Say goodbye to Europe! Have a nice flight back home!

##### ***Important Preparatory Information:***

- Comfortable walking shoes are recommended.
- A water bottle is highly recommended
- Climate can vary greatly during the program, be prepared for very warm and cool weather

***PLEASE NOTE: This itinerary may change at any time without notice. Updated Schedule of Activities will be posted on your student's OnBoard Web Site.***